

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 AID-20

COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02

LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 STR-08 CEA-02 AGR-20 INT-08

SCI-06 TAR-02 DRC-01 /290 W
----- 098124

R 111650Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5369

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EGEN, XA, XW

SUBJECT: AFRICAN-WESTERN RELATIONS

REF: A) STATE 238685; B) DAR ES SALAAM 3928;

C) LONDON 14355 (NOTAL)

1. DURING WIDE-RANGING DISCUSSION BETWEEN QUAI DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR FRANCOPHONE AFRICA REMOVILLE AND AF/C DIRECTOR COHEN, EMBOFF ASKED REMOVILLE FOR FRENCH REACTION TO EAST AND CENTRAL AFRICAN FOREIGN MINISTERS' CONFERENCE AND TO RESOLUTION CONCERNING ECONOMIC AND OTHER SANCTIONS AGAINST CERTAIN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES ADOPTED AT MEETING. REMOVILLE APPEARED TO BE ONLY VAGUELY AWARE OF DAR ES SALAAM GATHERING AND APPARENTLY HAD NOT EVEN HEARD OF SANCTIONS RESOLUTION.

2. IN MORE GENERAL VEIN, HOWEVER, HE SAID THAT AFRICANS ARE LIKELY TO BECOME INCREASINGLY PRISONER OF THE HEIGHTENED LEVEL OF THEIR RHETORIC AGAINST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY THE WEST. HE WAS GENERALLY PESSIMISTIC ABOUT THE FUTURE OUTLOOK FOR RELATIONS BETWEEN AFRICA AND THE WEST, CITING HOUPHOUET'S BREAK WITH ISRAEL AS EVIDENCE OF HOW EVEN THE MOST MODERATE LEADERS ARE BEING CAUGHT UP BY THE UPSURGE IN POLITICAL PRESSURES ON THEM. REMOVILLE IMPLIED THAT GREATER AFRICAN AWARENESS OF THE THIRD WORLD'S POTENTIAL ECONOMIC MUSCLE AS DEMONSTRATED BY THE ARAB OIL BOYCOTT WOULD GIVE ADDITIONAL IMPETUS TO THE ANTI-WESTERN TREND IN AFRICA.

3. COMMENT: WHILE REMOVILLE'S GLOOM DOUBTLESS STEMS PARTLY FROM FRENCH SURPRISE AT THE DEGREE TO WHICH THE FORMER FRENCH COLONIES HAVE PRESSED FOR REVISION OF THEIR RELATIONS WITH FRANCE AND THE DIFFICULTIES THE FRENCH ARE HAVING IN RENEGOTIATING BILATERAL ACCORDS, IT ALSO REFLECTS A BELIEF WIDELY HELD IN PARIS THAT THE PROBLEMS IN EUROPE'S RELATIONS WITH AFRICA WILL GET WORSE.

IRWIN

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